## Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program

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**Description:** The Pine Barrens Zanclognatha is a rather nondescript noctuid moth with dark brown forewings, darker brown, faint antemedial and postmedial lines, and a small, dark brown reniform spot; the hind wings are brown with a faint discal spot. Wingspan is 23-26 mm.

**Habitat:** The Pine Barrens Zanclognatha inhabits sandplain pitch pine-scrub oak barrens, including late-successional barrens.

**Life History:** Adult moths fly in July. Eggs hatch shortly after they are laid, and larvae feed on plant detritus, such as dead pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) needles and scrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*) leaves. Early-instar larvae overwinter and resume feeding in the spring, pupating by June.

Range: The Pine Barrens Zanclognatha is spottily distributed from southern Maine south to New Jersey and west to New York and Pennsylvania, and in the Appalachian Mountains of Ohio, Virginia, and North Carolina. In Massachusetts this species is restricted to inland barrens, and is not found on Cape Cod or the offshore islands.

## **Pine Barrens Zanclognatha**

Zanclognatha martha

State Status: Threatened Federal Status: None



Adult Flight Period in Massachusetts

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Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul		Aug		Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec	

## Threats

- Habitat loss
- Fire suppression
- Insecticide spraying
- Light pollution